

## Message Text

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42

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O R 231510Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7072

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY WUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BLANTYRE 672

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, RH

SUBJ: PROFESSOR HUTCHINSON'S COMMENTS ON RHODESIA SETTLEMENT

REFS: STATE 90668, LONDON 6401

1. SUMMARY: HUTCHINSON DESCRIBES BEHIND THE SCENES TENTATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MUZOREWA AND SMITH BUT BELIEVES SELLING PACKAGE TO ANC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE JUNE 2 MAY BE DIFFICULT. SITHOLE FACTION WITHIN EXECUTIVE MAY DEMAND MORE THAN MUZOREWA HAS OBTAINED. HUTCHINSON BELIEVES SITUATION COULD GO EITHER WAY BUT THAT BEST CHANCE FOR SETTLEMENT IS AT HAND. IF AGREEMENT REACHED, HUTCHINSON CLAIMS HE WILL BECOME ANC ENVOY SELLING REPRESENTATIVENESS OF ANC AND DESIRABILITY OF SETTLEMENT IN EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN CAPITALS. END SUMMARY.

2. PROF. HUTCHINSON ARRIVED BLANTYRE MAY 23; WILL RETURN SALISBURY MAY 24. HE STATES THERE HAS BEEN BEHIND THE SCENES TENTATIVE AGREEMENT KNOWN ONLY TO SMITH, LARDNER-BURKE, O'DONNELL (PERMSEC FON AFFAIRS) ON RHODESIAN SIDE AND MUZOREWA, CONFIDENTIAL

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DR. ELIOT GABELLAH, DOCTORS CHAVUNDUKA AND CHIKOSI, AND TOM

CURTIS (AMCIT ADMIN ASSISTANT TO BISHOP) ON ANC SIDE. AGREEMENT ALLEGEDLY REACHED DURING MAY 7 MEETING.

3. HUTCHINSON SAYS MUZOREWA MAY HAVE PROBLEM SELLING AGREEMENT TO ANC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE AT MEETING NOW SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 2. SITHOLE FACTION WITHIN EXECUTIVE FEELING INCREASINGLY CONFIDENT AS RESULT OF COUP IN PORTUGAL AND DOUBTLESS AIMS TO HOLD OUT FOR AS MUCH AS TRAFFIC WILL BEAR. FOR THIS REASON ELABORATE SCENARIO HAS BEEN PLANNED, TO WIT: ANC WHICH NOW HAS 16 SEATS WOULD GET SIX MORE, TOTAL 22. COMMITTEE EXPECTED TO DIRECT MUZOREWA TO NEGOTIATE FOR ADDITIONAL SEATS. TO MEET DEMAND SMITH HAS ALREADY AGREED TO AN ADDITIONAL FOUR SEATS, TOTAL 26. SMITH NOT WILLING TO GO BEYOND THIS FIGURE BUT MUZOREWA AND ANC MODERATES WILL ACCEPT, ENABLING ANNOUNCEMENT TO BE MADE THAT SMITH REGIME AND ANC HAVE AN AGREEMENT. SITHOLE EXPECTED TO REMAIN ADAMANT IN INSISTING ON AT LEAST 34 SEATS SINCE EUROPEANS HOLD 50. TO PLACATE SITHOLE HE REPORTEDLY WILL BE OFFERED A SEAT. AT PRESENT HUTCHINSON EXPECTS MUZOREWA CAN VOTE DOWN SITHOLE FACTION BY ABOUT 20-5 IN COMMITTEE.

3. HUTCHINSON BELIEVES NEXT FEW WEEKS WILL BE CRUCIAL FOR ANC. IF SETTLEMENT NOT REACHED NOW, HE BELIEVES MILITANTS WILL INCREASINGLY ASSERT THEMSELVES AND ANC WILL "FALL APART." HUTCHINSON IS CRITICAL OF MUZOREWA'S LEADERSHIP, SAYING IF SETTLEMENT IS REACHED HE EXPECTS VICE PRESIDENT GABELLAH WILL EVENTUALLY TAKE CONTROL OF ANC.

4. HUTCHINSON CLAIMS ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN DRAFTING PARTS OF AGREEMENT. AS PROOF HE LEFT COPIES DOCUMENTS INCLUDING DRAFT AMENDMENTS CONCERNING COMMISSION ON ENDING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND ON QUESTION OF DETAINEES. HE ALSO LEFT COPY OF LETTER HE SENDING TO THE SECRETARY. IF RPT IF AGREEMENT REACHED, HUTCHINSON EXPECTS BE ASKED TO SERVE AS ANC SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO TOUR EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN CAPITALS TO SELL REPRESENTATIVE STATUS OF ANC AND DESIRABILITY OF AGREEMENT IN GENERAL. HE AID HE COULD NOT PROVIDE FULL TEXT OF AGREEMENT AT THIS POINT. (COPIES OF SUCH DOCUMENTS AS HE PROVIDED POUCHED AF.)

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5. AS EXPECTED HUTCHINSON MADE APPEAL FOR MORE ACTIVE US ENDORSEMENT OF SMITH-ANC SETTLEMENT, SUGGESTING PUBLIC ENDORSEMENT MIGHT ACTUALLY FACILITATE AGREEMENT. HOWEVER HE WENT FURTHER TO ASK WHETHER, IF HE IS NAMED ANC REPRESENTATIVE IN WAKE OF AGREEMENT, DEPT COULD THEN EXTEND GOOD OFFICES TO FACILITATE HIS CONTACTS IN CAPITALS. HE INSISTED THAT TO THIS POINT HE HAS TOLD EVERYONE WITH WHOM HE IN CONTACT THAT HE IS ACTING ENTIRELY ON HIS OWN AS PRIVATE CITIZEN.

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## Message Attributes

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